(d) the details of the stamps proposed to be released during 1999-2000 in commemoration of personalities of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) During 1999-2000, 38 (Thirty Eight) postage stamps and 2 (Two) commemorative coins were brought out in commemoration of various personalities.

(b) Yes please. A proposal to bring out a stamp in commemoration of Kittur Rani Chennamma was received from Karnataka Government. No request, however, was received for issue of commemorative coins.

(c) Existing guidelines for issue of commemorative postage stamps stipulate that stamp on a personality may be issued on birth centenary or 10th/ 25th/50th/100th etc. death anniversary and the personality should be of national/ international importance. The guidelines also lay down that not more than one stamp may be issued on the same personality. A stamp on Kittur Rani Chennmma was already issued by the Department of Posts on 23.10.1977. Therefore, the proposal for issue of another stamp does not conform to the stipulations of the guidelines.

(d) Incommemoration of personalities of Karnataka, the following stamp was iusued during 1999-2000.

Name of the stamp	Date of Issue
Dr. T.M.A. Pai	09.10.1999

Tenders for cellular equipments

3254. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecom Services will be entering in the Cellular Services segment in all the State, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 5th April, 2000;

(b) if so, by when Tenders for cellular equipment are likely to be invited by Government

(c) whether DTS will also be aggressively competing with the private operators in all the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is DTS target for installation of Telephones in Urban areas as well as "Village Public Telephone" till 2000-2001 including providing of direct exchange lines in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Department of Telecom Services (DTS) is initially introducing cellular services in four States in the form of a Pilot Project. There is also a proposal to provide cellular services in all the States. Further action is in progress.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. DTS will compete with private operators in all the States by providing the service at competitive tariff.

(e) Circle-wise DEL target (Total inclusive of Urban and Rural) and VPT for the year 2000-2001 is enclosed as Statement I and Statement II respectively. *{See* below).

Statement—I

Circle-wise DEL targets for 2000-2001.

SI. No.	Unit	Target
1.	Andhra Pradesh	575000
2.	Assam	55000
3.	Bihar	260000
4.	Gujarat	250000
5.	Haryana	15000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	60000
7.	J and K	50000
8.	Karnataka	425000
9.	Kerala	450000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	120000
11.	Maharashtra	500000
12.	North-East	50000
13.	Orissa	100000
14.	Punjab	250000
15.	Rajasthan	210000
16.	Tamil Nadu	550000
17.	U.P. (East)	300000
18.	U.P. (West)	190000
19.	West Bengal	260000
20.	A&N	7000
21.	Calcutta T.D.	178000
22.	Chennai T.D.	150000
	TOTAL	5140000

Statement-II

Circle-wise target for providing VPTs in 2000-200 J

SI.	Unit	Target
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	8
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	5000
4.	Bihar	24651
5.	Gujarat	0
6.	Haryana	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4000
8.	J and K	2000
9.	Karnataka	1265
10.	Kerala	0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5860
12.	Maharashtra	0
13.	Goa	0
14.	North-East	5210
15.	Orissa	14000
16.	Punjab	0
17.	Rajasthan	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	55
19.	Uttar Pradesh	27000
20.	West Bengal	10947
	TOTAL	100,000

Training to Hindi Typists and Stenographers

†3255. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of typists and stenographers in the Ministry/department and subordinate offices who are yet to be trained for Hindi typing and stenography in Hindi; and

(b) the reasons for not giving them such training so far and by when it is planned to give them such training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will laid on the table of the House.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.